

Appl. No. 10/091,209
Amendment dated June 18, 2003
Reply of Office Action of March 19, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 19 are pending in the application with claims 1 and 7 having been amended.

Claims 13 through 19 have been allowed.

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reuter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,951,053).

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by General Tire and Rubber Co. (General Tire) (U.K. Patent Specification No. 908,012).

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kausch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,674,567).

Reuter et al. disclose improving the friction characteristics of rubber-like polyurethanes by introducing a combination of molybdenum disulfide, a silicone oil, and/or a hydrocarbon having a boiling point at atmospheric pressure of over 200° C into the rubber-like polyurethane material. See column 1, lines 36-42.

U.K. 908,012 discloses providing a polyurethane foam by reacting one mole equivalent weight of a hydroxy terminated polyalkylene ether glycol having a molecular weight of 750 to 10,000 with 1.1 to 12 mole equivalent weights of an organic polyisocyanate having at least 10% of its weight of a phenylene diisocyanate in which the isocyanate groups are attached to an unsubstituted phenylene nucleus to form a moisture-free liquid prepolymer mixture containing free isocyanate groups that have not reacted with hydroxyl terminal groups of the

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glycol. The prepolymer subsequently is reacted by the addition of water, a polyurethane reaction catalyst, and optionally a crosslinking agent containing a plurality of labile hydrogens to the previously mentioned dry prepolymer forming the desired spongy polyurethane by permitting the reaction to occur in the presence of some agitation and in the presence of a silicone oil so as to trap the CO₂. See page 1, lines 62-87.

Kausch et al. disclose a primerless, one-part, heat curable, low volatile organic compound, polyurethane composition that comprises a blocked polyurethane prepolymer made from a liquid hydroxyl terminated intermediate and an excess of a polyisocyanate, a curing agent, silicone and/or low friction polymer and optional fillers. Upon cure of the polyurethane composition, *the silicone oil and/or low friction polymer generally imparts low friction* and high abrasive resistant properties.

Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to particularly point out that the elastomers of the present invention have improved abrasion resistance *with no significant loss in friction*. It has been acknowledged in the present application that systems exhibiting improved abrasion resistance accompanied by reduced coefficients of friction are known in the art; see page 1, line 19 through page 2, line 15. The present application goes on to point out that for some applications such reduced friction is unacceptable. It is for applications such as these that the elastomers of the present invention have been developed, i.e., elastomers having improved abrasion resistance with no significant loss in friction. Such elastomeric compositions and methods of making them are not disclosed or suggested by Reuter et al., U.K. 908,012, or Kausch et al., either individually or in combination.

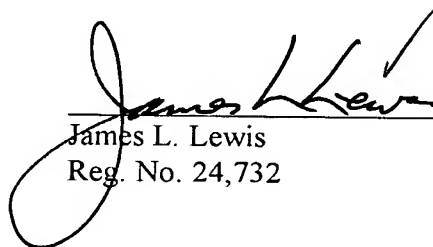
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Accordingly, it is requested that the rejections of claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, and 12 under U.S.C.102(b) as being anticipated by Reuter et al., of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by General Tire and Rubber Co., and of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kausch et al. be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early Office Action to that end is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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